

## **REMARKS**

The issue outstanding in the Office Action mailed April 8, 2008, is the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. This rejection is moot following the amendments above.

### **Claim Amendments**

The claims are now directed to liquid-crystalline-media comprising a mixture of at least one compound of formula I and at least one compound of formulae IIA and/or IIB. Claim 8 has been further amended and claim 15 added to redefine mixtures with particular compounds.

### **Prior Art**

In addition to the claim amendments, applicants have submitted an IDS with the request for continued examination identifying WO 03/010120, which published on February 6, 2003.

Applicants submit the amended claims are in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner has any questions or comments, he or she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/Richard J. Traverso/  
Richard J. Traverso, Reg. No. 30,595  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO  
& BRANIGAN, P.C.  
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400  
2200 Clarendon Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
Telephone: (703) 243-6333  
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3157

Date: April 8, 2009